

# Attempt to dismiss trial fails

## House prosecutors still after Lewinsky, shorten list of other witnesses

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate closed its doors Monday to debate a Democratic attempt to dismiss all charges against President Clinton, and to bring his impeachment trial to an end. House prosecutors pressed their case for testimony by Monica Lewinsky and a shortened list of additional witnesses.

Senators deliberated into the night in a rare secret session as the White House, confident of Clinton's ability to win eventual acquittal, announced it would ignore a written list of questions submitted by Majority Leader Trent Lott and other Republicans.

An attempt by two Democrats to open the debate to the public was rejected, with 57 senators voting against it and 43 for it. A two-thirds majority was needed to pass.

The senators began their closed-door debate after two final hours of arguments by the White House and

House prosecutors on the question of dismissal.

Rep. Henry Hyde, R-Ill., the lead prosecutor, told the Senate that dismissal would mean that "charges of perjury, obstruction of justice are summarily dismissed, disregarded, ignored, brushed off, and these are charges that send ordinary folk to jail every day of the week and remove federal judges."

There will be continuing contention about Clinton's case, he said, unless the articles of impeachment themselves are brought to a vote.

"The case cannot be made. It is time to end it," countered Nicole Seligman, a private attorney who has long represented Clinton and is part of his impeachment defense team.

No votes are expected before today or possibly Wednesday, but after more than two weeks, the first presidential impeachment trial in 131 years was fast

“*The case cannot be made. It is time to end it.*”

NICOLE SELIGMAN  
private attorney representing President Clinton

approaching a pivotal moment.

House Republicans are expected to produce a formal proposal for witnesses today, to be voted on after the attempt to dismiss the charges.

A decision by the House prosecutors to winnow their witness list during the day marked an attempt to hold the support of wavering Republican senators whose votes will be crucial when the roll is called.

Lewinsky remains at the top of the list, House officials said, and there is

continued interest in seeking testimony from Betty Currie, the president's secretary. Additional consideration is being given to adding Clinton's friend Vernon Jordan to the list, or perhaps a White House aide, either chief of staff John Podesta or Sidney Blumenthal.

Prosecutors and defense lawyers were granted an hour apiece to argue the motion to dismiss the charges.

But Lott, R-Miss., claimed enough votes to squash the attempt, and no Democrat disputed him.

# U.S. misfire causes deaths of 11 Iraqi civilians

## The jets fired in response to threats by anti-aircraft and warplanes, officials say.

BASRA, Iraq (AP) — U.S. missiles slammed into residential neighborhoods in southern Iraq on Monday, demolishing sturdy, stone-walled homes as they killed at least 11 people, Iraqi officials said.

U.S. officials said its Air Force and Navy jets fired at air defense systems in response to threats by anti-aircraft artillery fire and by four Iraqi warplanes flying south of the 33rd

parallel in violation of the no-flight ban.

Pentagon officials said it was likely that U.S. jets targeting the Iraqi air defense installations misfired and that at least two missiles may have resulted in civilian deaths in and around the city of Basra. Navy Capt. Michael Doubleday said U.S. officials were still assessing the site damage.

The missiles hit five areas of southern Iraq, including the working-class al-Jumhuriya neighborhood on the outskirts of Basra, Iraqi officials said. Several homes in that neighborhood were destroyed, and had their

roofs caved in. Broken dishes and kitchen utensils were strewn among the rubble. Civilians worked late into the night to clean the debris from the morning strike.

Ahmed Ibrahim Hamash, the governor of Basra, said two aircraft fired five missiles that killed 11 people and injured 59.

The missiles struck in the morning, and Hamash said most of the casualties were women, children or the elderly because many men had already left for work.

The missiles hit three civilian areas in or near Basra, as well as a site

near the airport and another near the Rumeilah oil fields.

Iraqi officials took reporters to the al-Jumhuri hospital, one of the city's two main hospitals. Several injured children and women were at the hospital. Iraqi officials said they had been wounded in the strikes.

Hamash said there were no military installations in the areas that were hit.

"There is not even a police station there, let alone a military installation," he said. "The United States claims to be a humanitarian nation, but they are enemies of that concept."

# Bill stiffens punishments for stores

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rect that is to take away something very valuable to the teens, she said.

"To a teen-ager, a driver's license is everything," she said. "It's a piece of freedom. A driver's license is a privilege, not a right."

Under the bill, minors who drink alcohol and get caught would face a mandatory fine of \$250 and an automatic six-month driver's license suspension on the first offense. The punishment for second offense would be \$500 and a one-year license suspension. Third offense would bring a \$750 fine and two-year license suspension, unless the minor turned 21 before the suspension expired.

If a minor was given probation for MIP, he or she would get an automatic 90-day license suspension on first offense and a six-month license suspension on second offense.

Thirty-three states have some sort of law suspending the driver's licenses of minors who are caught with alcohol.

Columbus Sen. Jennie Robak said although underage drinking is a problem, she worried about minors who attended parties unaware that alcohol

was there. Those minors could lose their licenses for being in the wrong place at the wrong time, she said.

But high school students testifying at the hearing said their peers knew when alcohol would be at a party.

"I have never been to a party where alcohol is there because I deliberately avoid that," said April Otterberg, a senior at Northwest High School in Omaha.

Schellpeper said the bill would cause students to change their behavior. "This is going to force kids to pick their friends better," he said.

Many liquor retailers supported the notion of license suspension for minors, but objected to giving the liquor commission more discretion.

The bill would let the Liquor Control Commission elect not to let establishments that sell to minors "buy out" of a liquor violation suspension on a second offense.

Currently, liquor license holders can pay \$50 a day for as long as the suspension would have lasted for a first offense, and \$100 a day for a second offense, in lieu of a license suspension. Schellpeper said the measure would be used on 15 percent of liquor

## World and Nation DATELINES

### Columbia Earthquake kills 87, injures nearly 850

BOGOTA (AP) — An earthquake struck western Colombia on Monday, killing at least 87 people and injuring nearly 850 as it toppled buildings across the country's coffee-growing heartland, police and radio reported.

The early-afternoon quake had a preliminary magnitude of 6, according to the U.S. Geological Survey in Golden, Colo.

Its epicenter was located in western Valle del Cauca, 140 miles west of the capital, Bogota.

### Washington Supreme Court bans statistical census sampling

The Associated Press — The Supreme Court ruled Monday that the 2000 Census cannot use statistical sampling to enhance its accuracy, a decision making it more likely millions of people will be left out.

The 5-4 ruling requires the traditional nose count to determine how many members of Congress each state should have.

The nation's highest court ruled that a 1976 federal census law "directly prohibits the use of sampling in the determination of population for the purposes of apportionment."

# Lincoln Police Department up for accreditation assessment

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cerns about the department's adherence to the national standards.

Citizens can call (402) 441-6359 between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. today to voice concerns.

The goal of the on-site visit is to make sure the department is following all the required directives.

When the Lincoln Police was originally accredited in 1989, it was the first and only agency in the state to meet the national standards.

Today, the Lincoln Police and the State Patrol are the only accredited agencies in the state.

Casady said it is difficult for smaller agencies to become accredit-

ed because of the cost required.

Accreditation for a mid-size department costs more than \$18,000, and requires many work hours to install the guidelines and policies.

"A lot of agencies are not willing to devote the time and effort to the process," Casady said.

But police departments see several benefits from accreditation.

Insurance companies give accredited agencies a break on their liability insurance because the standards reduce some risk factors.

"Accreditation reduces the risk of lawsuits," Casady said. "And injuries to citizens and officers are less likely."

## Clarification

Because of an editing error, a paragraph was unclear in Monday's story about Wahoo Sen. Curt Bromm's Highway Safety Initiative. The initiative would require that a person caught driving on a suspended license after a conviction for motor vehicle homicide would be charged with a felony instead of a misdemeanor.

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# Professors avoid lawsuit comments

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Schwebach began filing complaints with the university about harassment in the political science department in spring 1995.

Because no action was taken by former Political Science Department Chairman David Forsythe in 1995, the lawsuit alleged, additional complaints were filed with the arts and sciences college and the UNL Academic Senate's Academic Rights and Responsibilities Committee.

In spring of 1998, the Academic Rights and Responsibilities Committee said the political science department tolerated a hostile climate for women. The committee recommended placing the department on a "receivership," a

three-year probation-like period.

UNL Chancellor James Moeser appointed a three-member faculty committee to look at the department's climate. The committee found no hard evidence to support gender inequity.

Moeser did not return phone calls to the Daily Nebraskan on Monday.

Joan Giesecke, dean of libraries, was a member of the ad hoc committee.

"We reported on what we discovered when we talked to people in the department," Giesecke said.

"We said that a vast majority of respondents did not identify problems with gender related differential treatment in the department."

The faculty committee presented seven recommendations to Moeser. Some of the recommendations

license holders, restricted to those who flagrantly violate the law and sell to minors.

Carey Potter, executive director of the Nebraska Retail Federation, said although she was in favor of penalties for minors, the ones for liquor establishments seemed too stringent.

But Elm Creek Sen. Ed Schrock questioned that reasoning, which was offered by several other retail groups.

He said retailers seemed to be saying, "It's all right to penalize the kids, but don't penalize us."

Potter said more of the fault for selling alcohol to minors should be placed on the actual employees who sell to minors, not the store. She said regardless of how well some employees are trained, they may still sell to minors.

But even if retailers or employees were held more responsible, Bellevue Sen. Paul Hartnett said that was only a small part of the problem.

Liquor license establishments account for about 20 percent of all sales to minors, he said. The remaining get their alcohol from friends or relatives.

"Most of the iceberg is under the surface someplace," Hartnett said, "and we have to deal with that problem."

included calling for the department to work "very hard" to hire more women, ensuring that the department chairman was trained on university gender bias and sexual harassment policies, and developing policies to demonstrate the department's sensitivity.

The committee reported not finding any "hard evidence of gender equity" in the department.

Giesecke said it was up to the chancellor's office to act on the recommendations. J.T. Smith, a second-year political science graduate student, said he had heard some discussion within the department Monday about the lawsuit.

"I cannot speak for other graduate students," Smith said. "But the general scope of what I have been hearing is that it's a story that will not go away."